

**REMARKS**

By the foregoing Amendment, Claims 1, 5-7 and 9-14 are amended and additional Claims 15 and 16 are presented. Claims 1, 5-7 and 9-14 have been amended to better conform the claims to U.S. practice and to correct errors in dependency. Additional Claims 15 and 16 are added so as to remove alternative language, which Applicant believes may be considered indefinite, from Claims 5 and 9, respectively. Entry of the Amendment, and favorable consideration thereof, is earnestly requested.

The Examiner has required Applicant to elect one of four patentably distinct species of the claimed invention. Applicant hereby elects to prosecute Species 1 at this time.

The Examiner has acknowledged that Claim 1 is generic to all species. In addition, Applicant provides the following list of which claims are readable on which species.

1. Generic to all species
2. Generic to all species
3. Generic to all species
4. Generic to all species
5. Species 4
6. Generic to all species
7. Generic to all species
8. Generic to all species
9. Generic to all species
10. Species 1 & Species 4
11. Species 2 & Species 3
12. Generic to all species

- 13. Species 4
- 14. Species 2
- 15. Species 1 & Species 3
- 16. Generic to all species

Thus, since Applicant has elected to prosecute Species 1 at this time, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12, 15 and 16 should be entitled to consideration at this time, and that the remaining claims should be entitled to consideration once one or more of the Claims generic thereto is allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



---

Wesley W. Whitmyer, Jr., Reg. No. 33,558  
Todd M. Oberdick, Reg. No. 44,268  
ST. ONGE STEWARD JOHNSTON & REENS LLC  
986 Bedford Street  
Stamford, Connecticut 06905-5619  
(203) 324-6155  
Attorneys for Applicant

Response to Official Action  
Application No. 10/661,244  
Page 6

**Amendments to the Drawings:**

No amendments are made to the Drawings herein.